

CLAIMS

1. A polynucleotide which functions as IRES (internal ribosome entry site) in a plant and comprises the following DNA (a) or (b):
 - (a) a DNA of the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1; or
 - (b) a DNA of a nucleotide sequence derived from the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 by the substitution, deletion, addition, and insertion of one or more bases and having a function of positively regulating the translation of a gene located downstream along the translation direction in the plant.
2. A polynucleotide which functions as IRES (internal ribosome entry site) in a plant and comprises the following DNA (a) or (b):
 - (a) a DNA of the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2 or 3; or
 - (b) a DNA of a nucleotide sequence derived from the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 2 or 3 by the substitution, deletion, addition, and insertion of one or more bases and having a function of positively regulating the translation of a gene located downstream along the translation direction in the plant.
3. A polynucleotide which functions as IRES (internal ribosome entry site) in a plant and comprises the following DNA (a) or (b):
 - (a) a DNA of the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 4; or
 - (b) a DNA of a nucleotide sequence derived from the nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 4 by the substitution, deletion, addition, and insertion of one or more bases and having a function of positively regulating the translation of a gene located downstream along the translation direction in the plant.
4. The polynucleotide according to claim 1, wherein repeats of the DNA (a) or (b) are linked via or without a spacer sequence.
5. The polynucleotide according to claim 4, wherein the number of the repeats of the DNA (a) or (b) is 7 to 10.
6. The polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the polynucleotide further comprises at least a gene and/or a promoter.
7. A vector comprising a polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

8. A transformant transformed with a polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or with a vector according to claim 7.
9. A transgenic plant having a polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 6 incorporated in the genome.
10. A method of regulating gene expression in a plant, comprising the steps of:
 - constructing a polynucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a vector according to claim 7; and
 - transforming the polynucleotide or the vector into a plant-derived host,
 - wherein the translation of a gene located downstream of the DNA (a) or (b) is positively regulated in the transformed plant-derived host.